***Production* of Aluminium**

1159. MISS *SAROJ* KHAPARDE he Minister of MINES be pleased ate;

(a) what is the present domestic demand for Aluminium;

the present level of production of Aluminium in the country; and

(c) whether Aluminium is being exported, if so, the extent of export of the fame during the last three years, alongwith the foreign exchange earned during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH *YADAV);* (a) The estimated domestic demand for aluminium in the country during 1993-94 is 3,83,000 tonnes.

(b) The actual production figures of Aluminium by the primary producers during the last 3 years and estimate for 1993-94 are given below:

(Unit in Tonnes)

1990-91 Actuals	1991-92 Actuals	1992-93 Actuals	1993-94 (Estimated)
4,49,385	5,14,165	4,84,913	4,66,158

(c) The quantity and value of exports of Alumina and Aluminium by the primary producers during the last three years are given below :

Unit : Tonnes

Value : Rs./Crores

Year	Alumina		Aluminium	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1990-91	3,91,255	220.01	36,215	120.91
1991-92	4,06,846	185.81	72,919	263.19
1992-93	5,19,731	258.41	1,13,048	443.93

Formation of Joint Venture in HCL Projects

1160. SHRI P. UPENDRA; Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Copper Limited has failed to influence foreign countries to become equity partners in its proposed projects;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to convince prospective overseas clients regarding formation of a joint venture ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) No concrete proposal$_s$ so far have been received from foreign countries for equity participation in the projects of Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL).

(b) Poor grade of copper ore and limited known copper reserves in the country, high capital costs, low scales of operations, long gestation period etc. seem to be negative factors influencing the prospects of equity participation by the foreign countries in the projects of HCL,